

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 03516 010951 Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 RSR-01 /094 W

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R 010835 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8106

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E. O. 11652: N/ A, DECLASS JAN 1, 1974

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: FONMIN TESTIMONY ON ROKG UN POLICY

REF: SEOUL 3351

SUMMARY: FONMIN KIM HAS REITERATED THAT ROKG WILL FORMULATE A REALISTIC UN POLICY AND THAT UN DEBATE ON KOREAN QUESTION NOT NECESSARILY AGAINST ROK INTEREST. AT SAME TIME HE HAS ASSERTED THAT COMMUNIST PROPOSALS TO DISSOLVE UNCURK AND WITHDRAW UN FORCES CAN BE DEFEATED.

1. FONMIN KIM YONG SHIK IN ANSWERING QUESTIONS IN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE HEARING ON MAY 30 AND 31 REITERATED THAT ROKG WILL FORMULATE A FLEXIBLE AND REALISTIC UN POLICY BASED ON ANALYSIS OF WORLD SITUATION. ACCORDING TO PRESS, HE INDICATED ONCE AGAIN HIS GOVERNMENT'S READINESS TO DEBATE THE KOREAN QUESTION AT THE UNGA IF A MAJORITY OF THE UN MEMBERS SO DESIRE. HOWEVER, HE SAID THE ROK IS STILL PREPARED TO BLOCK DEBATE IF THE MAJORITY DOES NOT WANT ONE, AND HE GAVE IMPRESSION ROKG WILL BE WORKING TO ENSURE A MAJORITY AGAINST DEBATE. HE NOTED THAT NORTH KOREA IS MEMBER OF ONLY ONE SPECIALIZED AGENCY AND CLAIMED

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 03516 010951 Z

THAT ONLY MEMBERSHIP IN A MAJORITY OF SUCH AGENCIES WOULD QUALIFY THE NORTH FOR OBSERVER STATUS.

2. KIM INDICATED, HOWEVER, ROKG WOULD NOT REGARD DEBATE ITSELF AS A SETBACK. HE REMINDED ASSEMBLY ON MAY 30 THAT PRIOR TO ADOPTING DEFERMENT STRATEGY AT UN THE ROK HAD ENJOYED OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FOR ITS POSITION ON ISSUES OF UNCURK AND WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM KOREA. HE STATED ON MAY 31 THAT COMMUNIST PROPOSALS TO DISSOLVE UNCURK AND WITHDRAW FOREIGN FORCES CAN BE DEFEATED. IN CASE THE KOREAN QUESTION IS PLACED ON THE AGENDA AT THIS FALL'S UNGA.

3. CHUNGANG ILBO REPORTED MAY 31 THAT KIM ASSERTED A DEBATE WOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE AGAINST ROK INTEREST, AS ROK COULD USE OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW WHICH SIDE IS DELAYING UNIFICATION OF KOREAN PENINSULA.

4. SEOUL SHINMUN AND SHINA ILBO, WITH CREDIT TO HAPTONG NEWS AGENCY, REPORTED THAT U. S. OFFICIALS AFFIRMED THAT WHATEVER DECISION KOREAN GOVERNMENT WILL MAKE -- WHETHER TO SEEK TO PLACE OR SHELVE THE KOREAN QUESTION -- THE U. S. WILL ACTIVELY SUPPORT THE ROK DECISION IN COMING UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE STORY ADDED THAT U. S. OFFICIALS ARE CERTAIN THAT ROKG WILL REFLECT THE RAPIDLY CHANGING INTERNATIONAL SITUATION IN MAPPING OUT NEW APPROACHES TO KOREAN QUESTION IN UN AND WILL WELCOME THE NEW INITIATIVE ROKG IS EXPECTED TO TAKE ON THE UN QUESTION.

5. COMMENT: MOFA TELLS US THAT FONMIN KIM'S STATEMENTS WERE IN ANSWER TO OFTEN HYPOTHETICAL QUESTIONS PUT TO HIM BY ASSEMBLYMEN. THERE WAS STRONG INDICATION THAT KIM'S REPLIES WERE MEANT TO BE EQUIVOCAL OR NONCOMMITTAL ON QUESTIONS OF ANY POSSIBLE POLICY CHANGES.  
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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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**TAGS:** PFOR, KN, KS  
**To:** CINCPAC  
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